

THE PARK SYSTEM

Senate District Committee Submits Report

PLANS OF SPECIAL COMMISSION

Entire District Territory Treated Artistically and Scientifically.

FULL DETAILS SET FORTH

Reports on the plans of the park commission were laid before the Senate today and from 4 to 9 p.m. illustrations showing the salient features will be on exhibition at the Corcoran Art Gallery. These plans are the result of work that has been going on since the adjournment of the last Congress. The Senate District committee was authorized to appoint a commission to formulate plans for the improvement of the park system of the District, and Senator McMillan, chairman of the committee, appointed Messrs. Burnham and Olmsted, and they selected Mr. McKim of New York as the third member of the commission. Saint Gaudens, the sculptor, being later associated with them. Mr. Charles Moore, clerk of the Senate District committee, assisted the commission throughout its work.

The plans for the improvement of the park system are very complete, there being nearly 200 illustrations to accompany them. They not only suggest improvements of the parks of the District and the extension of the system, but they also indicate desirable locations for public buildings to be erected for the future wants of the government.

Senate Committee's Report.
A preliminary report on the improvement of the park system in the District of Columbia was today laid before the Senate by Mr. McMillan, chairman of the committee on the District of Columbia. The report outlines the plan which has been agreed upon by the park commission.

The report, beginning by referring to the original plan of this city, which was created as the seat of government.
"The original plan of Washington," the report says, "having stood the test of a century, has met universal approval. It is the departure from that plan that are to be regretted and, wherever possible, remedied."

"The various parks of the District are referred to and the report continues:
"Aside from the pleasure and the positive benefits to health that the people derive from public parks in a capital city like Washington there is a distinct use of public spaces as the indispensable means of giving dignity to governmental buildings, and of making suitable connections between the great departments. When the city of Washington was planned under the direct and minute supervision of Washington and Jefferson the relations that should subsist between the Capitol and the President's house were carefully studied. Indeed, the whole city was planned with a view to the reciprocal relations that should exist among public buildings. Vistas and axial sites for monuments and museums, parks and pleasure gardens; fountains and canals; in a word, all that goes to make a city a magnificent and consistent work of art, by your committee, and the most important of the commission announced the importance and usefulness of the commission were enhanced. Such a result was anticipated by your committee, and the most encouraging part of the work has been the cordiality and even enthusiasm with which the members of the commission have taken up the work."

Changes Made in the L'Enfant Plan.
"It has so happened that the slow and unequal development of the city during the century of its existence has worked changes in the original design, and to a certain extent has prevented the realization of the comprehensive plan of the founders. As a result there has been a lack of continuity in the parks, and spaces like the mall, that were designed for development as a unit, have been cut into pieces, some of which have been improved, some have been sold to private persons, and some have been diverted to uses so absolutely at variance with the original idea as seriously to detract from the dignity of the buildings these spaces were intended to enhance."

"Happily, however, nothing has been lost that cannot be regained at reasonable cost. Fortunately, also, during the years that have passed the Capitol has been enlarged and embellished, and the Washington monument, wonderful alike as an engineering feat and a work of art, has been constructed on a site that may be brought into relations with the Capitol and the White House. Doubly fortunate, moreover, is the fact that the vast and successful work of the engineers in redesigning the Potomac shores from unhealthy conditions gives opportunity for enlarging the scope of the earlier plans in a manner commensurate with the growth of the country. At the same time the development of Potomac Park both provides for a connection between the parks on the west and those on the east, and also it may readily furnish sites for those memorials which history has shown to be worthy a place in vital relation to the monuments and monuments erected under the personal supervision of the founders of the republic."

"The question of the development of these park areas forces itself upon the attention of Congress. Either this development may be made in a haphazard manner, or it may be made in accordance with a well-studied and well-considered plan devised by persons whose competence has been proved beyond question. Such a plan, adopted at this time and carried out as Congress may make appropriations for the work, will result in making Washington the most beautiful capital city in the world."

for the preparation and submission of a general plan for the development of the entire park system of the District.

The Appointment of a Commission.
"On March 19, 1901, the subcommittee of the District committee having the matter in charge met the representatives of the Institute of American Architects, and agreed to the proposition of the latter that Mr. Daniel H. Burnham of Chicago, Ill., and Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., of Brookline, Mass., be employed as experts, with power to add to their number. These gentlemen accepted the task, and subsequently invited Mr. Charles F. McKim and Mr. Augustus St. Gaudens of New York to act with them in the preparation of plans."

"The extremely high professional standing of the members of the commission is referred to.
"The nature and scope of the work having been outlined to the commission, they entered upon their task not without hesitation and misgivings," the report says. "The problem was both difficult and complex. Much must be done; much also must be undone. Moreover, no sooner was the membership of the commission announced than their aid and advice were sought in relation to buildings and memorials under consideration, so that immediately the range of the work broadened. Thus the importance and usefulness of the commission were enhanced. Such a result was anticipated by your committee, and the most encouraging part of the work has been the cordiality and even enthusiasm with which the members of the commission have taken up the work."

The Railroad Problem.
"After a detailed examination of the topographical features of the District of Columbia, the commission drew up preliminary plans. They were then forced to the conclusion that an adequate treatment of the park system depended upon the exclusion of the Baltimore and Potomac railroad from the mall, so as to give that dignified approach to the Capitol for which the mall was originally designed."

"The occupation of the mall by the railroad dates back about thirty years, at which time, in their eagerness to secure space for the freight and passenger traffic, the then local government of the District granted the lands, and subsequently Congress confirmed the grant. In extension of the original grant, it made no provision for the space was then no better than a common pasture and that the railroad would but take the place of the canal, which it paralleled; so that conditions would be bettered by the change, as undoubtedly proved."

The Necessity of Fountains.
"If all the fountains of Washington, instead of being left lifeless and inert as they are during most of the time, should be set playing at their full capacity, they would not use the amount of water that bursts from the world-famous fountain of Trevi or splashes on the stones of the piazza of St. Peter's. At the Chateau de Versailles, near Paris, the great landscape architect, LeNôtre, built cascades, fountains and fountains using 5,000,000 gallons of water per day; and the fountains of Versailles are the wonder and delight of the French people."

"The original plans of Washington show the high appreciation of LeNôtre for all forms of water decoration, and when the heats of a Washington summer are taken into consideration, further argument is unnecessary to prove that the first and greatest step to be taken in the matter of beautifying the District of Columbia is such an increase in the water supply as will make possible the copious and even lavish use of water in fountains."

Public Baths and Gymnasiums.
"Scarcely secondary in importance to fountains are public baths. An instructive lesson in this respect is to be found in the experience of the metropolitan park commission in taking over and equipping Revere Beach, immediately north of Boston. There the squalid conditions prevailing in former years have been changed radically; and the bathhouse, which is now a sufficient in extent to accommodate over 100,000 persons, is publicly maintained; no fewer than 1,700 separate rooms are provided for bathers, and the entire establishment is maintained at a small expense. The receipts are sufficient to pay for maintenance and the bathhouse is kept in good repair."

"In Washington the extensive use of the present bathing beach shows how welcome would be the construction of modern buildings with ample facilities. Moreover, the opportunities offered by an extended river frontage should be utilized in furnishing opportunities for free public use, especially for the people of that section of the city between the mall and the Potomac."

The Location of Public Buildings.
"The location of public buildings has received the very careful consideration of the

made worthy of the building proposed to be erected.

The Union Station.
"Subsequent examination convinced the commission that, from an aesthetic standpoint, there are insuperable objections to the depot site provided by law. The chief objection is that were the station to front on C street, a train shed 800 feet wide would be thrown across Massachusetts avenue, one of the great thoroughfares of the city. Not only would the vistas be blocked by a commercial building, but also the enormous structure, carried underneath this length and dimensions as to cause the avenue to be avoided. The commission therefore proposed a site for the new station will front upon a semi-circular plaza, 600 feet in width, where great bodies of troops or large organizations have been much lightened by the excellent topographical maps of the District outside of the city, prepared by the coast and geodetic survey, and by the uniform command of the District and other officials, who have willingly given all the assistance of their various offices."

"The plans call for a station nearly 100 feet wider than the Capitol, the building to be of white marble, the facade to be classical in style of architecture, and the construction and arrangements to be made to make this station superior to any structure ever erected for railway purposes. Facing the Capitol, and yet not too near that edifice, the new station will front upon a semi-circular plaza, 600 feet in width, where great bodies of troops or large organizations have been much lightened by the excellent topographical maps of the District outside of the city, prepared by the coast and geodetic survey, and by the uniform command of the District and other officials, who have willingly given all the assistance of their various offices."

"It should be said here that in considering the views of the commission, and in reaching his decision, the president of the Pennsylvania railroad looked at the matter from the standpoint of an American citizen, saying in substance that he appreciated the fact that the Commission intended to make of the mall what the founders of the city intended it to be, no railroad should be allowed to cross it; and that he would do all he could to assist the station interests of the stockholders of his road to vacate that space."

"This conditional consent on the part of the railroad removed the great obstacle to the preparation of adequate plans for the improvement of the city. Lesser obstacles, such as the lack of surveys of the oldest parks in the District and the difficulties of getting together the widely scattered data, have been surmounted. On the other hand, the work has been much lightened by the excellent topographical maps of the District outside of the city, prepared by the coast and geodetic survey, and by the uniform command of the District and other officials, who have willingly given all the assistance of their various offices."

Climatic Conditions in Washington.
"Upon beginning work the commission was confronted by the fact that while from the 1st of October till about the middle of May the climatic conditions of Washington are most salubrious, during the remaining four and a half months the city is subject to extended periods of intense heat, during which all public business is conducted at an undue expenditure of physical force. Every second year Congress is held in session usually until about the middle of July, and not infrequently it happens that by reason of prolonged or special sessions during the hottest portion of the summer the city is filled with the already great and increasing numbers of persons whose business makes necessary a more or less prolonged stay in Washington. Of course, nothing can be done to change weather conditions, but very much can be accomplished to mitigate the physical strain caused by summer heat. Singularly enough, up to the present time the abundant facilities which nature affords for healthful and pleasant recreation during heated terms have been neglected, and in this respect Washington is far behind other cities whose climatic conditions demand much less, and whose opportunities also are less favorable."

"In Rome throughout the centuries it has been the pride of emperor and of pope to build fountains to promote health and to give pleasure. Mile after mile of aqueducts has been constructed to gather the water from remote hills, and bring great living streams into every quarter of the city; so that from the moment of entering the eternal city until the time of departure the visitor is scarcely out of sight of beautiful jets of water now flung upward in great columns to add life and dignity even to St. Peter's; or again gushing in the form of cascades from some great work of art, or as sculptured fountains dripping refreshingly over the brim of a beautiful basin that was old when the Christian era began. The Forum is in ruins, basilicas and baths have been transformed into churches, palaces have been turned into museums; but the fountains of Rome are both omnipresent and eternal."

The Necessity of Fountains.
"If all the fountains of Washington, instead of being left lifeless and inert as they are during most of the time, should be set

commission. In general terms their conclusions are:

"First. That only public buildings should face the grounds of the Capitol."

"Second. That new department buildings may well be located so as to face Lafayette Square."

"Third. Buildings of a semi-public character may be located south of the present Corcoran Art Gallery, fronting on the White Lot and extending to the park limits."

"Fourth. That the northern side of the mall may properly be used by museum and other buildings containing collections in which the public generally is interested, but not by department buildings."

"Fifth. That the space between Pennsylvania avenue and the mall should be occupied by the District building, the Hall of Records, a money market, an armory for the District militia and structures of like character."

"The grounds on which these conclusions rest will be found in report of the commission."

The Improvement of the Mall.

"The mall, originally designed to form a park-like connection between the Capitol and the White House, was laid out in such

with the streets is highly expensive and is dangerous in case of the sudden melting of snows or of a cloudburst in the upper valley."

The Section West of Rock Creek.

"For the section west of Rock creek the plans not only contemplate improving the rare opportunities for enjoying the beauties of the Potomac gorge, even to the Great Falls, but they also provide suitable diagonal connections (through picturesque valleys) with Rock Creek Park."

"Between the parks on Rock creek and the grounds of the Soldiers' Home the connection is, first, by way of the valley of Piney branch, a region not less beautiful than the Rock creek valley; and second, along Savannah street widened into a parkway. This treatment allows a fine reciprocity between the proposed Municipal Hospital buildings and the new structure to be erected at the Soldiers' Home."

"Suitable connections are planned also between the home and the Anacostia river, taking in certain wooded hills that command extended views of the city. The swampy valley of the Anacostia becomes a park for boating, swimming and skating

be done in accordance with plans that are at once comprehensive, simple, adequate and dignified. In such manner only can there be a development of the District of Columbia worthy of the nation."

THE PARK COMMISSION

ITS REPORT ALSO LAID BEFORE THE SENATE.

It Gives Details of the Entire Plan for the Improvement of the City.

The report of the park commission was also laid before the Senate today by Mr. McMillan. It is very comprehensive and makes about fifty printed pages, giving the details of the entire plan of the commission for the improvement of the city.

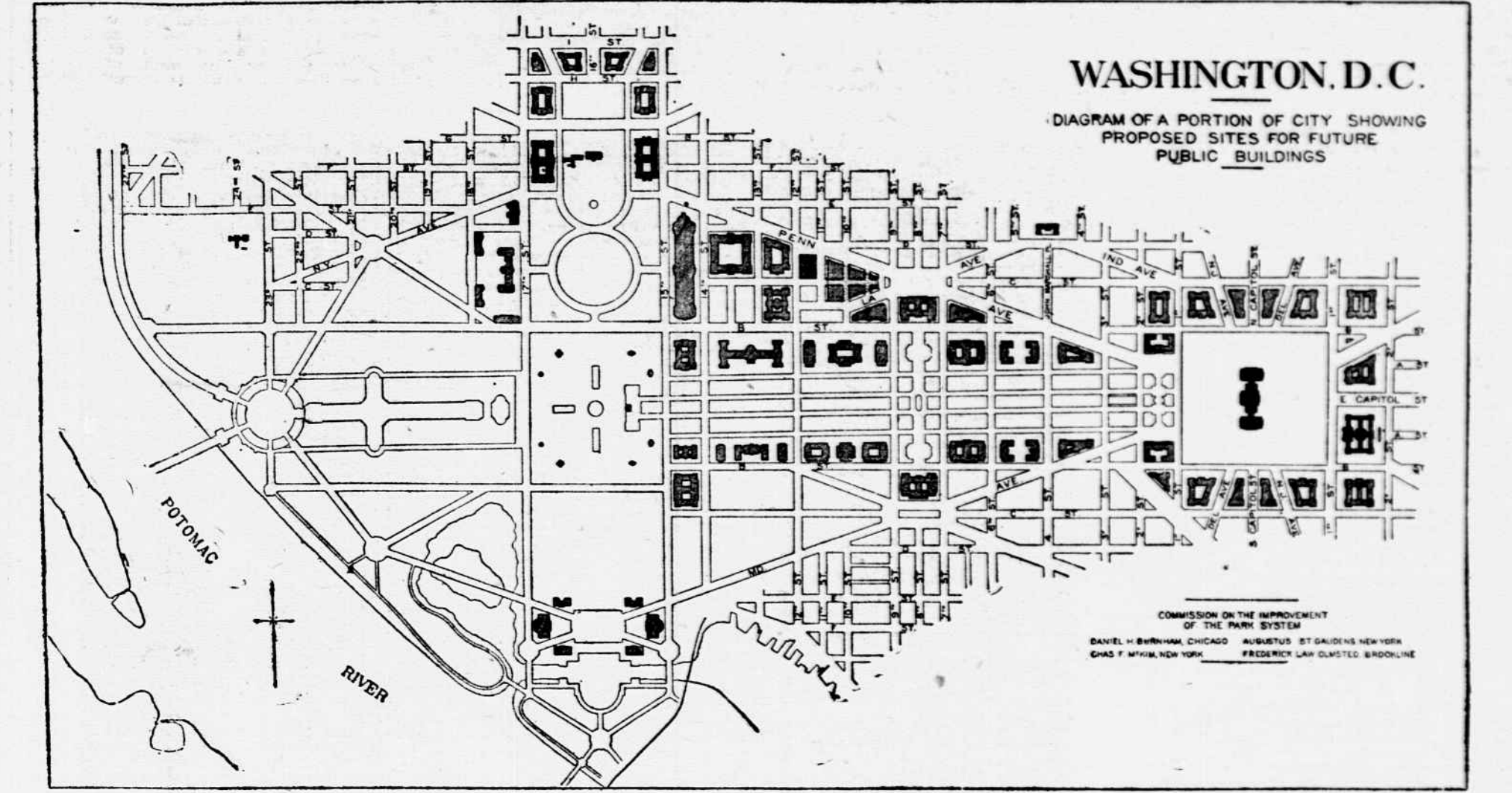
"The city of Washington differs from all

of return to the original plan of the city of Washington was added the task of suggesting lines for the development of those large parks which have been obtained in recent years either by purchase or by reclamation; of advising the acquisition of such additional spaces as are deemed necessary to create a modern park system, and of selecting for purchase and improvement suitable connections among the various park areas."

L'Enfant's Plan.
"If Washington were not a nation's capital, in which the location of public buildings is of the first importance; and if the city itself were not by its very plan tied to a historic past, the problem would be less complicated. The very fact that Washington and Jefferson, L'Enfant and Ellipt, and their immediate successors, drew inspiration from the world's greatest works of landscape architecture and of civic adornment made it imperative to go back to the sources of their knowledge and taste in order to restore unity and harmony to their creations and to guide future development along appropriate lines. Indeed, the more the commission studied the first plans of the

WASHINGTON, D. C.

DIAGRAM OF A PORTION OF CITY SHOWING PROPOSED SITES FOR FUTURE PUBLIC BUILDINGS



a manner as to emphasize the character of Washington as the capital city. The predominant idea in its treatment were dignity and beauty. The entire space was intended as a grand setting for the two great buildings of the nation. The new plans aim to restore these relations and to carry to their logical conclusion these intentions. In the plans for the improvement of the mall, therefore, the commission have endeavored to point the way to a realization of the greatest possible beauty and the utmost possible dignity."

"In outline the commission propose, by a simple device of planting, to bring the monument into the Capitol vista, so that the observer standing on the western terrace of the Capitol shall look off over a green carpet, bordered on each side by four rows of elms, to the monument, rising from a plain. Walks and driveways, shaded by the elms, give access from east to west, while the streets continue on the surface level from north to south. Behind these trees should stand the white marble buildings devoted to the scientific work of the government."

"The distance from the Capitol to the monument is about one and one-half miles, and the reclamation of the Potomac flats has added nearly a mile to this space, thus giving opportunity both for an extension of the treatment accorded to the mall and also for a new and great memorial to stand near the bank of the Potomac. Abraham Lincoln is the one name in our national history that the world has agreed to couple with Washington's, and as no

purposes, with encircling drives, walks and pleasure grounds."

The Anacostia Water Park.
"A water park on the upper stretches of the Anacostia as planned is calculated to furnish a much-needed variety in the District park system. Those persons who have visited the Thames on the occasion of a London holiday readily appreciate the enormous use which the people make of that narrow stream, the surface of which at times seems to be literally covered with the different kinds of light craft. In Belle Isle Park, in the city of Detroit, the creation of shallow lakes and connecting canals developed boating in summer and skating in winter to such an extent that often tens of thousands of people daily enjoy an island that for years was little else than a series of marshes. Given the opportunities for enjoyment, the people are quick to seize upon them; and once realized it seems astonishing that chances for pleasure have so long been neglected."

"The creation of a water park, with driveways surrounding it, being the suggested treatment of the Anacostia above the head of navigation, the lower portion of the stream to its junction with the Potomac may well be treated as proposed by the engineers, namely, by the construction of a canal along the borders of the channel and filling in the flats. The present limited wharf frontage of Washington makes it certain that as the city increases in size the channel and the wharf will be needed for business purposes. It is important, however, that a broad parkway connection be maintained along the river in order to connect the Anacostia Park with the Potomac Park, and for this work a line of stone quays, overlooked by terraces, as on the Seine in Paris, may be used to excellent advantage."

"The long island lying between the Washington channel and the main channel of the Potomac should be treated in such a manner as to afford shaded drives and walks along the water, with frequent boat landings, so as to make the park accessible to the section of the city which it adjoins. The work of the engineers has been of such a character that the island can be developed at comparatively small expense, and at the same time a portion of the city in great need of park space will be well accommodated."

The River Front.
"The necessity of rebuilding the wharves on Washington channel, which recently has come into the undisputed possession of the District of Columbia, makes it necessary to decide as to the character of the new wharves. The War Department has recently established the engineers' school and the war college on what is known as the Arsenal grounds, and this property will be greatly improved within the near future."

"The rebuilding of the wharves should be in keeping with the prospective improvements; and fortunately the rental value of the frontage will be sufficient to provide for the ultimate payment of the cost of permanent work as well as the maintenance of the same."

"The ebb and flow of the tide in the channel should not be impeded by slips that collect refuse, but should be increased by a continuous line of masonry quays, to correspond with the miles of masonry work already constructed by the engineers to form the river walls of the Potomac Park. As business demands larger space, the piling should be arranged so as to provide for clear tidal flow. Then the wide thoroughfare known as Water street may be treated as a driveway between the Potomac Park and the Anacostia Park."

The Plans and Models.
"In working out their plans the commission found it necessary to have prepared, under their direction, models in plaster of the section of the city from the Library of Congress westward to the Potomac. These models, so indispensable to the designers, become the guides for carrying out the plans, so that, no matter how long a period of time the work may cover, there need be no departure from the approved designs."

"In order to give a more detailed treatment of particular features than models on so small a scale afford, detailed architectural drawings first have been made and then have been rendered by capable illustrators, so that the appearance of the completed work may be studied. Through the courtesy of the trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art the models and studies have been placed on exhibition at that gallery where they are open to public inspection."

Concentration of Authority Necessary.
"The plans as prepared call for systematic, continuous work, which must of necessity be prolonged over a considerable number of years. The parks and reservations are now under the control of various officers and boards, all working with zeal but not always in harmony and cooperation. In order to promote economy and efficiency a park commission should be created and in its charge the entire park system of the District of Columbia should be placed. This commission should be national rather than local in character, and the most satisfactory way of treating Rock Creek is to improve the banks, build roads along them, and secure such control of the spaces along the top of the banks as will allow adequate policing. A stream, even a small stream, running between picturesque banks, in the midst of a city like Washington, offers opportunities for park improvement that should not be ignored. The alternative of arching over the creek and filling in between the banks for the purpose of constructing a boulevard on a level

other American cities in the fact that in its original plan parks were laid out as settings for public buildings," the report states in opening. "Even its broad avenues were arranged so as to enhance the effect of the great edifices of the nation; and the squares at the intersection of the wide thoroughfares were planned as sites for memorials to be erected by the various states. Parks, in the modern sense of large public recreation grounds, there were none; but small areas designed to beautify the connections between the various departments of government were numerous."

Development of Urban Life.
"During the nineteenth century, however, the development of urban life and the expansion of cities has brought into prominence other needs, not recognized a hundred years ago, for large parks to preserve artificially in our cities passages of rural or sylvan scenery and for spaces adapted to various special forms of recreation. In the effort to provide for these new needs, instead of acquiring additional lands Congress diverted from their original purpose those already set apart, for the founders had been so far-sighted that there seemed to the limited view of their successors in prospect that the government buildings would ever require so grand and large a setting."

"Moreover, during the century that has elapsed since the foundation of the city the great space known as the mall, which was intended to form a unified connection between the Capitol and the White House, and to furnish sites for a certain class of public buildings, has been diverted from

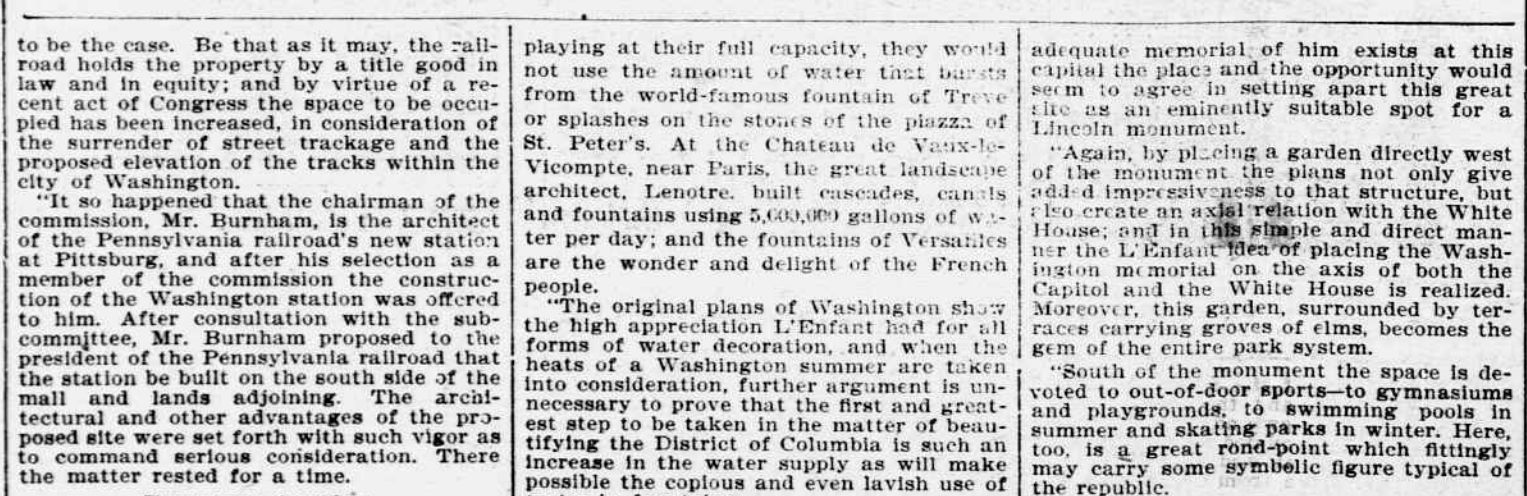
federal city, the more they became convinced that the greatest service they could perform would be done by carrying to a legitimate conclusion the comprehensive, intelligent, and yet simple and straightforward scheme devised by L'Enfant under the direction of Washington and Jefferson."

"The trip of the commission to the historic towns and estates on the Potomac and James rivers and on Chesapeake bay is referred to, these places exemplifying the principles of plan and design for which the seventeenth century was famous. The approval of the plan for a comprehensive scheme of improvement of the park system of the District by public officials whose duties lead them to consider such needs of the capital is shown by quotations from recent reports. The parks that now encircle the city are referred to, and the natural susceptibility of these public areas for improvement is explained."

More Parks in Suburbs.
A considerable increase in the number of parks in the outlying part of the city is declared to be necessary if provision is to be made for the immediate future. Such proposed additional parks have been selected because their natural conditions indicate their fitness for such use, while they are less desirable for the ordinary purposes of private occupancy. In order to make these selections nearly every part of the District has been examined in person by the Commissioners."

"Within the old city limits," the report continues, "no additional small reservations are needed, but in the remaining four-fifths of the District there are practically none, as against 270 in the city. Distributed with

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF GREATER WASHINGTON, LOOKING NORTHEAST.



to be the case. Be that as it may, the railroad holds the property by a title good in law and in equity, and by virtue of a recent act of Congress the space to be occupied has been increased, in consideration of the surrender of street trackage and the proposed elevation of the tracks within the city of Washington."

"It so happened that the chairman of the commission, Mr. Burnham, the architect of the Pennsylvania railroad's new station at Pittsburgh, and after his selection as a member of the commission the construction of the Washington station was offered to him. After consultation with the subcommittee, Mr. Burnham proposed to the president of the Pennsylvania railroad that the station be built on the south side of the mall and lands adjoining. The architectural and other advantages of the proposed site were set forth with such vigor as to command serious consideration. There the matter rested for a time."

"The commission, in order to make a closer study of the practice of landscape architecture as applied to parks and public buildings, made a brief trip to Europe, visiting Rome, Venice, Vienna, Budapest, Paris, London and their suburbs. Attention was directed principally to ascertaining what arrangement of park areas best adapts them to the uses of the people, and what are the elements that give pleasure from generation to generation, and even from century to century. The many and striking results of this study will appear in the discussions that follow."

"It was during the stay of the commission in London that President Cassatt announced to Mr. Burnham his willingness to consider the question, not of moving the Baltimore and Potomac station to the south side of the mall, but of withdrawing altogether from that region and uniting the American Architects, in session in this city, was discussing the subject of beautifying the capital city."

adequate memorial of him exists at this capital the place and the opportunity would seem to agree in pointing apart this great site as an eminently suitable spot for a Lincoln monument."

"Again, by placing a garden directly west of the monument the plans not only give a direct approach to that structure, but also create an axial relation with the White House; and in this simple and direct manner the L'Enfant plan of placing the Washington memorial on the axis of both the Capitol and the White House is realized. Moreover, this garden, surrounded by terraces carrying groves of elms, becomes the gem of the entire park system."

"South of the monument the space is devoted to out-of-door sports—to gymnasiums and playgrounds, to swimming pools in summer and skating parks in winter. Here, too, is a great round-point which fittingly may carry some symbolic figure typical of the republic."

"In the new plans the Lincoln memorial site becomes a point of divergence from which proceeds the driveway leading southwesterly to the Potomac Park, the Memorial bridge leading directly to the mansion house at Arlington, and the embankment carrying the driveway to the mouth of Rock Creek, whence the driveway leads through the picturesque valley to the Zoological and Rock Creek parks."

TERRACE AT THE BASE OF THE MONUMENT.

its original purposes and cut into fragments, each portion receiving a separate and individual informal treatment, thus substituting diversity for harmony. Moreover, many reservations have passed from public into private ownership, with the result that public buildings have lost their appropriate surroundings, and new structures have been built without that landscape setting which the founders of the city relied on to give them beauty and dignity."

Demand for Public Buildings.
"Now that the demand for new public buildings and memorials has reached an acute stage, there has been hesitation and embarrassment in locating them because of the uncertainty in securing appropriate sites. The commission was thus brought face to face with the problem of devising such a plan as shall tend to restore that unity of design which was the fundamental conception of those who first laid out the city as a national capital, and of formulating definite principles for the placing of those future structures which, in order to become effective, demand both a landscape setting and a visible orderly relation one to another for their mutual support and enhancement."

"The same wise foresight as was shown by the founders of the city, and with equal liberality, there should be some ten to twelve hundred in the outlying district. Without adopting any such arbitrary rule, we can say that considerable numbers of these minor spaces ought now to be secured while much of the land is selling at acre prices. In many cases there are strong grounds of choice among several good areas in one neighborhood, and the final determination must depend very largely upon the prices at which the several parcels are offered by their owners."

Groves and Hills.
Some groves and small hills that were used as forts during the civil war, and affording extensive views, have been selected for small parks. There are within the city twenty-five squares, circles, &c., between one and twenty-five acres in extent, and 275 reservations of from one acre to 405 square feet, making a total of 290 minor reservations. Referring to the need of playgrounds, the report says: "One such space, one to which several squares should be devoted in different parts of the city is that of playgrounds, and thus, too, should be considered individual and not in any wholesale or uniform manner. In some cases they should provide special